[Mr. Speaker] [20th January 1961

2. Non-official Business.

31st January 1961 (Tuesday)—Official Business.

1st February 1961 (Wednesday)—Official Business.

The House will sit from 8-30 a.m. to 1-30 p.m. on all days. It is also expected that the House will again meet on 17th of February 1961. This has not been finalized. Hon. Members will be informed of it when it is finalized.

(2) PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

MR. SPEAKER: Under rule 14 (1) of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I nominate the following to be the Panel of Chairmen :—

1. SRIMATHI T. N. ANANDANAYAKI.
2. SRI A. VEDARATHNAM.
3. SRI V. SUBBIAH.
4. SRI M. SELVARAJ.

I have nominated only four. I shall nominate two more if occasion necessitates it.

V.—SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1960–61.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

I rise to present the Second Supplementary Statement of demands for grants for further expenditure in 1960–61. The detailed explanatory statement is placed on the table of the House.

2. The supplementary demand before the House is for a total sum of Rs. 6·12 crores. Out of this, a demand of Rs. 2·59 crores is on the revenue account and a demand of Rs. 3·30 crores on the capital account and the balance of Rs. 23 lakhs under "Loans and Advances".

3. The House is aware that we have been able to achieve the targets under all heads of development in the Second Plan and exceed some of them, largely on account of continuous process of review and reappropriation, to meet the growing tempo of Plan outlay. The current year being the last year of the Second Plan, there is an increase in Plan expenditure under many heads and we have also to take up the preliminary work in respect of Third Plan schemes. This trend is reflected in the present supplementary estimates.

4. The District Boards other than Thanjavur are being given consolidated net cost grants for primary and secondary education. On the basis of their actual requirements, it is now found that an additional amount of Rs. 40 lakhs for Primary Education and Rs. 35 lakhs for Secondary Education is required. Similar net cost grants have to be given for the first batch of 75 Panchayat Unions

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for Primary Education and a sum of Rs. 40 lakhs has been asked for, for this purpose. Members would have participated in the inauguration of the first batch of 75 Panchayat Unions on 2nd October 1960. This is a major reform for which only a token amount had been provided under various heads while finalizing the Budget. The present supplementary demand includes a provision of 21 lakhs for the construction of buildings to house the offices and meeting halls of the first batch of 75 Panchayat Unions in the current year. A Block Planning Officer has been sanctioned for each of the 375 blocks into which the State has been delimited. Staff has been sanctioned for the Panchayat Unions and for the Collector's offices. In keeping with the tempo of work to be undertaken in the Panchayat Union areas, special staff has been sanctioned to the Highways Department. All these provisions will be found in this supplementary estimate under the appropriate demands. Linked up with the Panchayat reform is the long awaited increase in the emoluments of village officers about which several Members spoke when I presented the first supplementary estimates before this House for the Pay Commission expenditure. We have sanctioned an ad-hoc increase of Rs. 2 or 3 to thalayaris, Rs. 5 or Rs. 7 to the village headmen and Rs. 10 or Rs. 12 to karnams according as they hold a light charge or a normal charge. A karnam who discharges the function of Secretary to the Village Panchayat is given an additional remuneration of Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 as the case may be. This increase has been made applicable to all village officers in the State from 1st January 1961.

5. The significant provisions reflecting the increase in the tempo of Plan expenditure are as follows: Rs. 12 lakhs under Medical and Public Health reflecting the increase in bed strength in hospitals and in the number of admissions to Medical Colleges and the progress of the National Malaria Eradication programme.

Under Agriculture, a provision of Rs. 4 lakhs has been made for the Package Programme which is being implemented in 23 Blocks in the Thanjavur district. Another important item under Agriculture is the scheme for sinking of 425 sub-artesian wells in ten districts of the State.

Under Harijan Welfare, an additional amount of Rs. 10 lakhs has been asked for for scholarships.

Two important items representing preliminary works on Third Plan schemes are a provision of rupees one lakh for investigation to be undertaken for the Iron and Steel Plant at Salem and a provision of Rs. 3 lakhs under Civil Works for the preparation of plans and estimates in respect of road and bridge works to be undertaken in the Third Plan.

6. An item of expenditure that has arisen from the general debate in this House on the Budget for 1960–61, is the grant of Rs. 15 lakhs and loan of Rs. 15 lakhs to the City Corporation. This represents a special assistance to the Corporation in the current year for the improved surfacing of specified stretches of Mount Road,